



DISABILITY AND COMMUNICATION ACCESS BOARD

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INTERPRETIVE OPINION

Pursuant to §103-50, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), all buildings and facilities constructed by, or on behalf of the State or any county, shall conform to the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines (ADAAG) and amendments. In accordance to HRS §103-50 and Chapter 11-217, Hawaii Administrative Rules, the Disability and Communication Access Board has authority to issue interpretive opinions to HRS §103-50 design standards.

Docket: **DCAB 2002-03:** Interpretive Opinion on ADAAG 4.8.4, Ramp Landings and 4.8.5, Ramp Handrails. Is the requirement for landings and handrails under ADAAG 4.8.1, applicable to sidewalks along a public right-of-way?

Summary: The features of an *accessible route*, developed for *sites*, are not wholly applicable to the constrained environment of *public rights-of-way*. *Sidewalks* are *additions (alterations)* to roadways, and are therefore subject to *technical infeasibility* and *maximum-extent-feasible* standards, which are not applicable to newly constructed subdivision *sites*. Dependent upon and connected to roadway design, *sidewalks* are *at the side* of roadways making them fundamentally different from *walkways* on sites, so the application of ramp requirements upon them creates walkways that do not function like sidewalks.

Ruling: For buildings or facilities subject to HRS §103-50,

ADAAG 4.8.4 Ramp Landings, 4.8.5 Ramp Handrails

Handrails are not required on the accessible route within sidewalks.

Intermediate landings are not required on the accessible route within sidewalks unless otherwise required by a curb ramp, curb ramp landing, or a ramp to provide entrance into a building, facility, or site.

[Rul: 03/02] (Auth and Imp: HRS §103-50)

If you have any questions or comments regarding this ruling, please call us at 586-8121.

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